Applicant : Kaczmarczyk
Serial No. : 09/821,507
Filed : March 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: SNS-009
(65672/019)
Page 9 of 16

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-24.   (Canceled)

25.   (Currently amended) A method for managing a packet network, comprising:

receiving an indicator signal associated with time-sensitive data traffic in a network, the traffic controlled by a call agent;

accessing a database entry associated with the call agent in response to the indicator signal; and

reassigning control of the data traffic from the call agent to a second call agent, wherein reassigning comprises changing the database entry from an IP address associated with the call agent to a second IP address associated with the second call agent.

26.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, ~~further comprising selecting~~ wherein the indicator signal ~~from one of the group consisting of~~ comprises a keepalive signal, a congestion indicator, a failure indicator, ~~and~~ or a malfunction indicator.

27.   (Canceled)

28.   (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein accessing the database comprises accessing at least one table.

29.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the database entry ~~includes at least one of the group consisting of~~ comprises dispatch group information, dispatch trunk information, ~~and~~ or dispatch control information.

Applicant : Kaczmarczyk
Serial No. : 09/821,507
Filed : March 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: SNS-009
(65672/019)
Page 10 of 16

30.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, ~~further comprising selecting~~ wherein the data traffic ~~from the group consisting of~~ comprises Internet Protocol, voice, video, ~~and~~ or multimedia data.

31.   (Currently amended) A system for managing a packet network, comprising:

a database; and

a distributor layer operable to:

receive an indicator signal associated with time-sensitive data traffic in a network, the traffic controlled by a call agent;

access an entry in the database associated with the call agent in response to the indicator signal; [[and]]

reassign control of the data traffic from the call agent to a second call agent; and

<u>change the entry from an IP address associated with the call agent to a second IP address associated with the second call agent.</u>

32.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 31, wherein the indicator signal ~~is selected from one of the group consisting of~~ comprises a keepalive signal, a congestion indicator, a failure indicator, ~~and~~ or a malfunction indicator.

33.   (Canceled)

34.   (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the entry comprises at least one table.

35.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 31, wherein the entry ~~includes at least one of the group consisting of~~ comprises dispatch group information, dispatch trunk information, ~~and~~ or dispatch control information.

36.   (Currently amended) The system of claim 31, wherein the data traffic ~~is selected from~~

Applicant : Kaczmarczyk
Serial No. : 09/821,507
Filed : March 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: SNS-009
(65672/019)
Page 11 of 16

~~the group consisting of~~ <u>comprises</u> Internet Protocol, voice, video, ~~and~~ <u>or</u> multimedia data.

37.   (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the data traffic comprises data associated with a call.

38.   (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

distributing at least a portion of the database across the network.

39.   (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

receiving, by a distributor layer, state-driven information associated with at least one call between an originator and a termination point from the first or second call agent ;

receiving a plurality of stateless requests from the distributor layer; and

accessing a database entry associated with the requests.

40.   (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the plurality of requests comprises a routing request, an originating ANI lookup request, or a terminating ANI request.

41.   (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

spawning at least one request to obtain information associated with an originator and a termination point from the first or second call agent.

42.   (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

transferring information associated with an originator and a termination point to the first or second call agent.

43.   (New) The method of claim 25, further comprising:

receiving a stateless business request from a distributor layer; and

accessing a database entry associated with the business request.

Applicant : Kaczmarczyk
Serial No. : 09/821,507
Filed : March 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: SNS-009
(65672/019)
Page 12 of 16

44.   (New) The method of claim 43, further comprising:

associating information from the database entry, relating to billing information or accounts information, with the request.

45.   (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the database entry comprises information associated with a visitor's location registry, a home location registry, subscriber information, ANI information, or IMSI information.

46.   (New) The system of claim 31, wherein the data traffic comprises a call.

47.   (New) The system of claim 31, wherein the distributor layer is further operable to:

communicate with a first or second call agent, the call agent receiving state-driven information associated with a call between an originator and a termination point.

48.   (New) The system of claim 31, wherein the distributor layer is further operable to:

generate a plurality of stateless requests.

49.   (New) The system of claim 48, wherein the plurality of requests comprises a routing request, an originating ANI lookup request, or a terminating ANI request.

50.   (New) The system of claim 31, further comprising a telephony management layer operable to:

receive a plurality of stateless requests from the distributor layer;

access a database entry associated with the requests, wherein the database entry has associated information; and

send the information to the first or second call agent to route the call.

51.   (New) The system of claim 50, wherein the telephony management layer is further operable to:

Applicant : Kaczmarczyk
Serial No. : 09/821,507
Filed : March 29, 2001

Attorney Docket No.: SNS-009
(65672/019)
Page 13 of 16

spawn at least one request to obtain information associated with an originator and a termination point if necessary to route the call.

52. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein the database entry comprises dispatch group information, dispatch trunk information, or dispatch control information.

53. (New) The system of claim 31, further comprising a customer managed layer operable to:

receive a stateless business request from the distributor layer; and

access a database entry associated with the business request.

54. (New) The system of claim 53, further comprising a customer managed layer operable to:

associate information from the database entry, related to billing information or accounts information, with the request.

55. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein the database entry comprises a visitor's location registry, a home location registry, subscriber information, ANI information, or IMSI information.

56. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein at least a portion of the database is distributed across the network.

57. (New) The system of claim 31, wherein the distributor layer is further operable to:

receive state-driven information associated with an originator and a termination point from a first call agent or a second call agent; and

generate a plurality of stateless requests.